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Security Committee

SECOM-D-168/81

25 June 1981

CATE/NIC
CAR/J

MEMORANDUM FOR: SECOM Members

STAT FROM: [redacted]
Chairman

SUBJECT: Update of "A Study of Harassments and Provocations

1. Members agreed at the 20 May 1981 meeting that it would be desirable to update the July 1978 SECOM study on harassments and provocations (SECOM-D-342). The object is to ensure that the Community has data reflecting recent experience by Americans abroad which can be used effectively in enhancing defensive security briefings for others about to travel or be assigned to countries in which there is a risk of harassments and provocations.

2. Cases presented for this purpose should include detailed, objective data describing all pertinent factors from which "lessons learned" can be derived. It would be helpful if the data provided included such information as the kinds of personal data foreign countries require on visa applications, and explicit descriptions of conduct abroad (e.g.,contact with persons or groups deemed "unreliable" by host countries), which might have triggered provocations and harassments. It would also be helpful if inputs addressed geographic areas of concern (e.g.,USSR, Eastern European Warsaw Pact countries, the Middle East), and individual countries in such areas which measurably deviate from the "norm" on provocations and harassments. If there are any areas or countries of previous concern which have been relatively free from incidents in recent years, comments assessing the change and its likely permanance would be useful.

3. Addressees are requested to provide data for this update by 23 October 1981. While those departments and agencies which maintain facilities abroad are most likely to have material to contribute, comments and suggestions from all would be welcome.

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